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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/782,693	02/19/2004	Victor Mercado	1842.043US1	4552
21186	7590	08/24/2005	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.			LAU, HOI CHING	
P.O. BOX 2938			ART UNIT	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0938			PAPER NUMBER	
			2636	

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/782,693

Applicant(s)

MERCADO ET AL.

Examiner

Hoi C. Lau

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/19/2004
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1- 29 have been examined.

NOTES & REMARKS

3. Examiner requests applicant to submit the Prior Art: "PIC microcontroller" from Microchip Technology Inc. and the "PIC microcontroller" from Parallax, Inc. and controller PIC12C508.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities:

The preamble of claim 7, "self-service machine" is not correlated with the preamble of Claim 7, "gaming machine" base on the dependency.

Appropriate correction is required.

5. Claims 23-25 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The preamble of claims 23 and 25, "the kit" is judging base on merits as it dependent on claim 20.

The term "peripheral" on claim 24 is judging base on merits as it dependent on claim 23.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

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6. Claims 1-6, 10, 16, 17, 20, 26 and 29 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The specification does not provide a clearly detail and explanation how the "inverted signal" operates in cycle or time interval to cooperate with the controller to enable the alarm system.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-11, 13-20, 25-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Stockdale (U.S. 6,575,833).

Regarding **Claim 1**, Stockdale teaches a machine comprises:

a housing (main cabinet 4) (figure 1 and 2 and column 6, lines 17-23);

a door mounted to the housing for gaining access to the inside of the

housing (figure 1 and 2 and column 6, lines 17-23);

a processor (figure 3 and column 9, lines 62-67), and

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a tamper detection mechanism (security monitoring system 322), wherein the tamper detection mechanism includes:

a tamper detection controller (Sensor Monitoring circuitry 400 and column 10, lines 54-67);

an emitter (figure 4 and column 11, lines 10-20); and

a sensor (figure 4 and column 11, lines 10-20),

wherein one of the emitter and sensor is mounted to the housing and one of the emitter and sensor is mounted to the door (column 7, lines 44-67 and column 8, lines 1-2); and

wherein the tamper detection controller drives the emitter with a signal and monitors the sensor to determine if it generated an inverted version of the signal (figure 4 and column 4, lines 5-11 and column 11, line 67 and column 12, lines 1-12).

As to **claim 3**, Stockdale's machine teaches the emitter is mounted to a portion of a door interlock mechanism (column 4, lines 5-11 and column 8, lines 1-2).

As to **claim 4**, it teaches the sensor is mounted to a portion of a door interlock mechanism (column 4, lines 5-11 and column 8, lines 1-2).

As to **claim 5**, it teaches the sensor and emitter operate to generate an inverted signal and wherein the tamper detection controller generates an alarm if the signal received from the sensor is not inverted (column 4, lines 5-11 and column 11, line 67 and column 12, lines 1-12).

Regarding **claim 7**, it teaches a gaming machine comprises:

a housing (main cabinet 4) (figure 1 and 2 and column 6, lines 17-23);

a door mounted to the housing for gaining access to the inside of the housing (figure 1 and 2 and column 6, lines 17-23),

a gaming mechanism (column 6, lines 17-20);

a door interlock mechanism collected to the housing and the door, wherein the door interlock mechanism includes means, connected to the door interlock mechanism, for generating an alarm when the door is open (column 7, lines 44-57 and column 10, lines 29-40); and

a tamper detection mechanism (security monitoring system 322), wherein the tamper detection mechanism includes:

a tamper detection controller (Sensor Monitoring circuitry 400 and column 10, lines 54-67);

an emitter (figure 4 and column 11, lines 10-20); and

a sensor (figure 4 and column 11, lines 10-20),

wherein one of the emitter and sensor is mounted to the housing and one of the emitter and sensor is mounted to the door (column 7, lines 44-67 and column 8, lines 1-2)); and

wherein the tamper detection controller drives the emitter with a signal, monitors the sensor for a version of the signal and generates an alarm if the version of the signal is not received as expected (figure 4 and column 4, lines 5-11 and column 11, line 67 and column 12, lines 1-12).

As to **claim 8**, it teaches the emitter is mounted to a portion of the door interlock mechanism (column 7, lines 44-57).

As to **claim 9**, it teaches the sensor is mounted to a portion of the door interlock mechanism (column 7, lines 44-57).

As to **claim 10**, it teaches the sensor and emitter operate to generate an inverted signal and wherein the tamper detection controller generates an alarm if the signal received from the sensor is not inverted (figure 4 and column 4, lines 5-11 and column 11, line 67 and column 12, lines 1-12).

As to **claim 11**, it teaches the tamper detection controller is mounted physically separate from the gaming mechanism (figure 2 and column 8, lines 37-65).

Regarding **claim 13**, it is a method claim corresponding to the apparatus of claim 7, and is therefore rejected for the similar reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 7, supra.

As to **claim 14**, it teaches installing a tamper detection controller includes running an existing gaming machine signal through the tamper detection controller (column 8, lines 39-65).

As to **claim 15**, it teaches the method comprises generating an alarm if the existing gaming machine signal is not detected (column 8, lines 39-65).

As to **claim 16**, it teaches modifying includes inverting the signal (figure 4 and column 4, lines 5-11 and column 11, line 67 and column 12, lines 1-12).

Regarding **claims 17-19**, drawn to a method corresponding to the apparatus of claims 13-15, is rejected for similar reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 13-15, supra.

Regarding **claim 20**, it is a manufacture method claim corresponding to an apparatus claims 13-16 and it is therefore rejected for the similar reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 13-16, supra.

As to **claim 25**, it teaches the object is a door (column 6, lines 17-30).

Regarding **claims 26-29**, drawn to a method corresponding to the apparatus of claims 13-16, is rejected for similar reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 13-16, supra.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 2, 6, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stockdale (U.S. 6,575,833) in view of Stillwagon (U.S. 6,496,101).

As to **claim 2**, Stockdale's device meets all the limitation of claim except it fails to show the tamper detection controller is mounted physically separate from the processor.

Stillwagon's device teaches the electronic lock control system is mounted physically separate from the processor (figure 2 and 15 and column 6, lines 19-46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time to separate the processor from the controller because it would provide an easy access option for replacement without replace the entire unit.

As to **claim 6**, Stockdale's device meets all the limitation of claim except it fails to show the tamper detection mechanism includes a relay.

Stillwagon's device teaches a relay with the tamper detection mechanism (column 6, lines 29-46).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a relay into Stockdale's system because it would provide a switching element to interface different electronic components to corporate as a whole unit.

As to **claim 12**, it is claim corresponding to an apparatus claim 6 and it is therefore rejected for the similar reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 6, supra.

9. Claims 21, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stockdale (U.S. 6,575,833) in view of Slomowitz et al. (U.S. 20040207524).

As to **claim 21 and 22**, Stockdale's device meets all the limitation of claim except it fails to show a LED as an indicator which is used to align the emitter and sensor.

Slomowitz's device teaches to use LED to align the emitter and sensor for positioning (Page 4, paragraph 62).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include a LED indicator into Stockdale's device because it would help the user to align and calibrate both emitter and sensor during installation.

10. Claims 23 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stockdale (U.S. 6,575,833) in view of Carmichael (U.S. 20020100659).

As to **claim 23 and 24**, Stockdale's device meets all the limitation of claim except it fails to show the object is peripheral where peripheral is a hopper.

Carmichael's device teaches a kit with emitter and sensor is for detecting a hopper (abstract and page 2, paragraphs 14,16, 33 and 38).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art the detecting object would be peripheral or hopper because it would provide the collectable data such as coin for the system to avoid a cheating tool would be inserted.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Fisher et al. (U.S. 20040097285) teaches an anti-cheating device for a gaming machine, which prevents or detects the insertion of a cheating device through a hole or seam. An assembly links a more sensitive local alarm system across to an independent central alarm system. Hama et al. (U.S. 6,239,423) shows an area sensor including a light emitter having a plurality of light emitting devices that emit rays of light and a light receiver having light receiving devices that respectively correspond to the light emitting devices for receiving the rays of light therefrom. Vuong et al. (U.S. 20030195037) teaches a system and method for the play of casino games. Casino games are played on a gaming machine that includes a processor and at least one video camera for detecting images of the user and a remote controlled electronic lock. Loose (U.S. 6,420,972) teaches a door monitoring system comprises a power supply electrically connected to an oscillator. The oscillator sends a signal to a junction between a switch to ground and a latch circuit. Flood et al. (20040134980) teaches an automated teller machine having a secure enclosure; a lock for securing the secure

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enclosure and a processor for controlling teller machine functionality and additionally the lock.

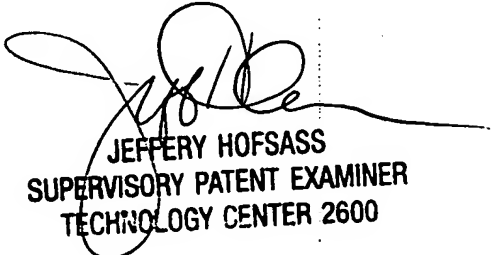
12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoi C. Lau whose telephone number is (571)272-8547.

The examiner can normally be reached on M- F 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Hofsass can be reached on (571)272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HCL



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